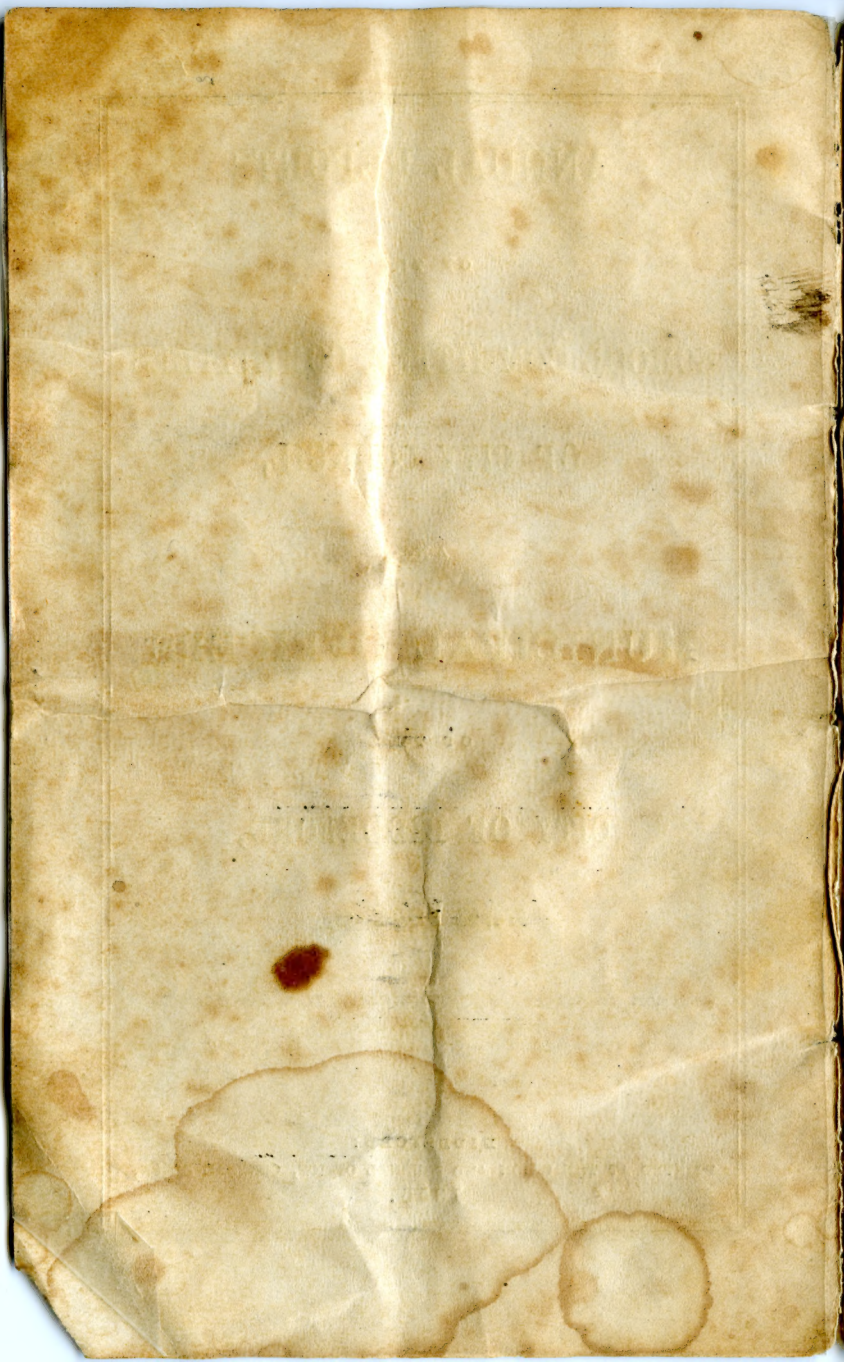


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R.H. Gay 9/11/17

ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE, COMMITTEES
OF CITY COUNCIL,
AND
MUNICIPAL OFFICERS
OF THE
CITY OF BIDDEFORD,
FOR 1855-6.

BIDDEFORD:
PRINTED AT THE UNION AND JOURNAL OFFICE, CENTRAL BLOCK,
1856.



REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The Superintending School Committee of the City of Biddeford, for the year ending March 10th, 1856, have attended to their duties, and present the following Report :—

VACANCIES.

Two vacancies have occurred in the Committee, by the resignation of Rev. F. Massuere, and the removal from the city of Rev. L. H. Witham. S. W. Luques, Esq., was chosen to fill the place of the former, and Rev. J. Hubbard, Jr., that of the latter.

TEACHERS EXAMINED, &c.

The Committee have examined twenty-four persons proposing to teach in the city ; they have given twenty-one certificates, and renewed eighteen certificates to former teachers.

VISITS TO SCHOOLS, &c.

The usual number of visits have been made by the Committee to the Schools in the several Districts, the following brief notices of which will enable their fellow-citizens to form a tolerably correct idea of the general character and usefulness of the Schools.

DISTRICT NO. I.

SUMMER TERM.

Teacher. This school appeared well. The Teacher was attentive to her duties, and the scholars made considerable progress in their studies. The Committee have received no Register of this school, and therefore the name of the teacher does not appear in this Report.

WINTER TERM.

HORACE HANSON, Teacher. This was a well-conducted school. The teacher was successful in maintaining good order, and inciting his scholars to a diligent application to the branches of learning pursued. The examination gave evidence of good advancement.

DISTRICT NO. II.

NO SUMMER TERM.

WINTER TERM.

S. S. EMERY, Teacher. This was an excellent school. Mr. Emery is one of our best teachers. He exhibits superior qualifications both in the management and instruction of his pupils. The scholars in this school deserve commendation for their good behavior. The recitations were prompt and thorough.

DISTRICT NO. III.

SUMMER TERM.

AMANDA M. LITTLEFIELD, Teacher. Miss Littlefield is a well-qualified instructress, and by her patient assiduity and faithful efforts made the school pleasant and useful. The scholars learned well.

WINTER TERM.

ALBERT L. CLEAVES, Teacher. Mr. Cleaves has the reputation of being a useful teacher. The scholars in this school were pleasant and orderly, and made very good advancement in their studies.

DISTRICT NO. V.

SUMMER TERM.

MR. W. F. HAINES commenced this school, but left in one week on account of ill health. He was succeeded by Mr.

L. T. MASON. The examination indicated good instruction and an average degree of success. There was a want of government and good order.

WINTER TERM.

FRANCIS C. GORDON, Teacher. The teacher labored faithfully in this school, and his efforts were attended with ordinary results.

DISTRICT NO. VI.

FIRST TERM.

This term was commenced by Mr. A Stuart, who was obliged to leave it the second week on account of ill health.— He was succeeded by Mr. S. S. Emery, of whom we have already spoken. Mr. Emery labored hard and faithfully for the good of his scholars; and under his judicious management good discipline was maintained, and a fair progress made in the acquisition of knowledge.

SECOND TERM.

This term was commenced by L. T. Mason, who left the school in two weeks, for reasons unknown to the Committee. He was succeeded by Mr. H. B. Stuart. This school belonged to Mr. Witham to visit, but the Committee have no Report of any visit made.

THIRD TERM.

H. B. STUART, Teacher. Of this school little can be said to its credit. The scholars were disorderly and noisy, and manifested a very disreputable want of interest in the objects of the school. Much of the fault in this case is doubtless chargeable to the teacher, who, while he may possess learning sufficient to instruct, evidently has not tact and energy to interest and govern scholars. But the fault lay not altogether, nor chiefly with the teacher. There is manifestly a want of interest in the objects of the common school among the families of this district, and an unwillingness to have their children brought under proper and wholesome discipline in the school. We sincerely hope for improvement in these particulars among these otherwise worthy citizens.

DISTRICT NO. VII.

SUMMER TERM.

AUGUSTA PERKINS, Teacher. This was a profitable School.

Miss Perkins was faithful to her trust, and labored with a good degree of success. The children seemed interested, and learned well. At the second visit of the committee, a Sister of Miss P. was found in charge of the School.

WINTER TERM.

THOMAS H. EMERY, Teacher. Mr. Emery deserves special commendation as a thoroughly qualified and highly successful teacher. His qualifications were turned to good account in this School. The examination indicated that a good degree of interest in the studies had been awakened, and considerable proficiency obtained. The money was well expended.

DISTRICT NO. VIII.

SUMMER TERM.

LIZZIE DREW, Teacher. This was a small School, and of ordinary usefulness. The committee have received no Register from this teacher.

WINTER TERM.

IVORY MASON, Teacher. Mr. Mason is a very industrious teacher, and was useful to his pupils.

DISTRICT NO. IX.

SUMMER TERM.

KATE B. LANPHAR, Teacher. This School appeared well at the commencement. At the second visit of the committee, it was found that the number of scholars had greatly diminished. Those present gave evidence of diligent application, of thorough instruction, and of good improvement.

WINTER TERM.

No School was reported to the Committee.

DISTRICT NO. X.

SUMMER TERM.

MARGARET LAVENDER, Teacher. The general appearance of this School was favorable. Teacher and Scholars were interested in their work, and to the latter the time was profitably spent. No Register has been received of this School.

WINTER TERM.

LUTHER T. MASON, Teacher. The classes of older pupils in this School, appeared on examination to have made considerable improvement in their several studies, and showed evident marks of careful instruction. We however sincerely regret not being able to speak of this School as a whole in terms of unqualified praise; for while we were highly satisfied with the deportment and proficiency of the larger scholars, we were pained, as well as greatly annoyed, at the rudeness of behavior and insubordination of the younger members of this charge, and feared that such a want of control and order might have impaired the usefulness of the instructor.

DISTRICT NO. XII.

SUMMER TERM.

ELIZA J. STONE, Teacher. This was a good School, well governed and well instructed.

WINTER TERM.

GEORGE P. MCKENNEY, Teacher. Mr. McKenney exhibits fine qualifications for his employment—and under his discreet management and thorough instruction the School was greatly improved in its general appearance. The scholars were studious, and in their recitations prompt and thorough.

DISTRICT NO. IV.

Eleven Schools, of four terms each, have been taught in this District during the year. The Committee are happy to say, that these Schools have fully maintained the high reputation of former years. The Teachers have given their undivided attention to the fulfilment of their duties, and deserve the highest commendation for their patient assiduity and zealous devotion to the interests of their pupils. It would unnecessarily extend this report to notice separately each of these Schools. Very few changes have been made in Teachers the past year, so that it is sufficient to speak of these Schools under the heads of their classification.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

There are seven Schools of this class in the District, one more than last year. These Schools have been very successful, and fully met the expectations of the Committee. It is well known that many of the pupils in these Schools are small children, between the ages of four and seven years.

Here they are first taught to govern themselves by the laws of the School-room—here they receive their first lessons. To take charge of these little ones, and make right marks on their plastic nature, every one must see is no slight, irresponsible work. These Teachers need the sympathy and cordial co-operation of all the parents and guardians. They are thoroughly qualified for their work, and deserve the confidence of all our citizens. So far as the old teachers are concerned, this is but a reiteration of the commendations of former committees. Of the new teachers, Miss Dow, at King's Corner, and Miss Allen, on Washington street, the committee can speak as efficient and decidedly successful in managing and instructing those under their charge.

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL.

This School has been taught by Miss SUSAN L. STAPLES, assisted by Miss STIMSON. This is one of the most difficult schools under the management of Female teachers. But it has been successfully conducted by Miss Staples, who is decidedly a faithful and energetic teacher.

GRAMMAR SCHOOLS.

MESSRS. MILLIKEN and BRAGDON, Teachers. These schools during the past year have been very successful. While that under the care of Mr. Milliken has fully and nobly sustained its well known and well earned reputation, that under the care of Mr. Bragdon has made decided and highly creditable progress. The discipline and instruction of these schools are of the highest order. The scholars are cheerful and pleasant, and generally disposed to improve faithfully the opportunities they enjoy, to acquire knowledge and discipline of their minds.

HIGH SCHOOL.

Your Committee would repeat what was said of this school last year:—"Of this school much might be said, showing its value, its high standing, and its claims for continued interest and good will in its behalf. Under its present experienced and able Preceptor, MR. HORACE PIPER, the school has taken its stand beside our best Seminaries and Academies. The studies there pursued are well selected and thoroughly taught. Its several examinations have been in the highest degree satisfactory," showing the most efficient training and thorough scholarship. NANCY M. SHAW * for several years the very able and faithful Assistant of Mr. Piper, having been obliged to leave the school on account of ill health, Miss MARIA C. GRAY, a graduate of the school,

was chosen to fill her place a part of the year. The present Assistant is Miss ISABEL SYMONDS, a very thorough and highly accomplished scholar.

It is the opinion of the Committee that the wages of the teachers of the Primary Schools should be increased. Their cares and duties are not of an ordinary character; and a sufficient remuneration should be offered to command a high order of teachers in these schools, and to compensate those who have labored so faithfully for the welfare of the children entrusted to their charge. The Committee would also suggest the expediency of an inquiry in reference to the wages of other teachers in District No. 4.

The Committee are of the opinion that another building, sufficient to accommodate a Grammar and Primary School in this District, is needed to relieve the over-crowded Primary Schools, and to provide for the increasing population.

WHOLE NUMBER OF SCHOLARS.

The whole number of scholars residing within the limits of the city, on the first of May last, was 2692. Of this number, 2037 belong to District No. 4.

MONEY RAISED, &c.

The whole amount of money voted to be raised by the City Council for the past year, was \$ 6000.

The city has received from the State, as our proportion of the Bank Tax, \$758.42.

The Committee would recommend that \$ 600 be added to the amount voted last year, for the support of the schools the coming year.

SCHOOL REGISTERS.

The attention of teachers and school agents is called to the following law: Art. VII., Sect. 1, of "An act to provide for the Education of Youth," reads as follows:—"It shall be the duty of every teacher of a public school to keep a School Register, containing the names of all the scholars

*Since deceased in the city of Portland.

who enter the school, their ages the date of each scholar's entering and leaving school, the number of days of each scholar's attendance, the length of the school, the teacher's wages, a list of text books used, and such other facts as may be required by the blank form, furnished under the provisions of the law ; which Register shall, at all times, be open to the inspection of the School Committee, and a return of the same be made to said Committee at the close of the school.

☞ And no teacher shall be entitled to pay for his or her services, until the Register for his or her school, properly filled up, completed and signed, shall be deposited with the School Committee, or with such persons as they may designate to receive it.

The Committee are dependent on these Registers for the facts which they are required to report to the Secretary of State on the first day of April of each year ; and which report must be duly made, or the city will not receive its share of the bank tax for that year. Having had considerable difficulty heretofore in obtaining these Registers, and to prevent the recurrence of this difficulty in the future, the Committee have designated the City Treasurer as the person to whom all Registers shall be returned by the teachers before payment is received for their services.

In conclusion, the Committee would recommend continued and increasing efforts to promote the prosperity and efficiency of our public schools. The value and importance of these schools to the public welfare cannot be over-estimated. And we sincerely hope that the future efforts of our fellow citizens in this direction will not only be characterized by a liberality and enterprise commensurate with that of the past, but with the wants and demands of the progressive age in which we live.

LUKE HILL,	} <i>Superintending</i>
S. W. LUQUES,	
J. HUBBARD, JR.,	

School Committee.

BIDDEFORD, March 1st, 1856.

SUMMER SCHOOLS.

Districts.	Agents.	Teachers.	Length in days	Whole no. Scholars.	Average attendance	Wages per week
No. 1.	GEORGE H. GILPATRICK,	No Register returned.	55			\$2.00
2.	JOHN PLASTED,	No School.				
3.	SAMUEL LUNT,	Ananda M. Littlefield,	50	23	20	2 50
5.	NATHANIEL EMERY,	Luther T. Mason,	69	45	34	\$20.00 per month.
6.	CAPT. N. HILL,	{ A. Stuart,	58	72	61	25.00 " "
7.	SAMUEL TARBOX,	{ S. S. Emery,	82½			2 25
8.	JAMES D. BRUELL,	Augusta Perkins,*	49½			2 00
9.	ABRAM DAVIS,	Lizzie Drew,*	60			1.75
10.	ABSOLEM BOWDEN,	Kate B. Lanphar,	60½	59	37	2 50
12.	JOSEPH CURTIS,	Margaret Lavender,*	70	40	29	2 42
		Eliza J. Stone,				

WINTER SCHOOLS.

	Agents as above.		Length in days	Whole no. Scholars.	Average attendance	Wages per month
1.		Horace Harmon,	55	29	25	\$24.00
2.		S. S. Emery,	66	25	22	25.00
3.		Albert L. Cleaves,	58	31	20	25 00
5.		Francis C. Gordon	45	41	32	22 00
6.		H. B. Stuart,†	115	76	60	35 00
7.		T. H. Emery,	77	55	35	35 00
8.		Ivory Mason,	71	36	31	22.00
9.		No School reported				
10.		L. T. Mason,	78	48	35	26.00
12		G. P. McKenney,	60	39	23	27 00

*No Register returned. †School now in progress. District No. 4 reported in next Table. No. 3 is connected with Kennebunkport. No. 14 is connected with Dighton.

DISTRICT NUMBER FOUR.

D. Stimpson, - - A. W. Page, - - C. K. Lunt, - - Agents.

SCHOOLS.	FIRST TERM.			SECOND TERM.			THIRD TERM.			FOURTH TERM.		
	Length in days	No. of Scholars	Average attendance	Length in days	No. of Scholars	Average attendance	Length in days	No. of Scholars	Average attendance	Length in days	No. of Scholars	Average attendance
High Sch. on Grammar School, Spruce St.	55	79	61	47	60	67	55	67	54	55	58	72
" " Sullivan St.	55	88		50	86	67	55	90	70	55	91	81
Intermediate S., Washington St.	53	78		50	87	92	55	76	67	45	98	82
Primary School, " 1st.	52	81	64	49	84	65	55			55	76	69
" " " 2d.		112	108	50	120	82	55	70	50	55	65	45
" " Wintworth St.	55	52	40	50	58	45	55	75	60	55	60	45
" " Kings Corner	55	56	45	50	71	56	55	47	39	55	43	52
" " Spruce Street.	55	142	90	50	134	102	55	55	40	55	50	35
" " Sullivan St.	55	120	90	50	166	125	51	150	80	54	106	75
" " Pool Street.	55	75	55	50	78	60	55	70	107	53	160	110
									55	55	68	50

In arranging this Table, in some cases figures have been supplied from previous Reports.

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF THE POOR, AND CITY FARM, FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 29th 1856.

Among the first orders passed by the City Council, after its organization, was one for the purchase of a farm for the support of the poor. The Cutts' Farm, so called, being centrally located, provided with buildings which, with some enlargement, might be made convenient for a large family, was purchased for that purpose. Agreeable to a vote of the City Council, the Overseers of the Poor were authorized to procure a suitable person to take charge of the farm, to purchase the necessary stock and farming utensils, and make the necessary arrangements for the removal and support of the paupers. The services of Mr. Kerne Folsom were procured to take charge of the farm, for one year, and to take care of and provide for the wants of those who, from time to time should be carried there for support. From the large number of persons to be removed, it was thought necessary to make some alterations in the buildings, together with additional sleeping apartments, which, being completed, no time was lost in effecting the removal of all those who, in our opinion, could be better provided for at the farm than elsewhere.

Annexed is an exhibit of expenditures and resources on account of City Farm and Paupers for the current year.

EXPENDITURES.

Total amount paid for Farm, Stock, farming utensils, repairing and alteration of buildings, furnishing the same, &c.,	\$7 277 02
Due for interest on cost of Farm,	275 00
Due Kerne Folsom for services to date,	340 00
Due City for grass on Thatch bed,	7 00
Total amount paid out on account of Paupers as per Treasurer's account,	1 614 54
Due sundry individuals on acct. of Paupers to date,	27 56
Due Insane Hospital to date,	96 61
	\$9 637 73

RESOURCES OF CITY FARM, &c.

Bills due from the City.

For 56 days' drawing gravel and labor on highway with team,	\$252 00
For 40 days' shoveling gravel,	40 00
1200 loads gravel for streets,	120 00
	\$412 00

Cash received from sundry individuals.

For Pasturing Horse,	7 00
Use of Team,	15 75
Produce sold from farm,	73 60
Gravel sold,	72
4 Oxen sold,	290 00
	387 07

Stock and material on farm at present time.

2 Hogs,	30 00
3 Cows,	105 00
2 do.	50 00
Lot Fowl,	5 00
14 Tun Straw and Butts,	2 00
15 Tuns English Hay,	270 00
8 1-2 tuns salt Hay,	63 00
200 lbs. Pork,	20 00
18 lbs. Lard,	2 25
100 lbs. Beef,	7 00
10 lbs. Butter,	2 50
40 bushels Oats,	20 00
4 bushels Barley,	3 33
25 bushels Corn,	25 00

6 1-2 bushels Beans,	14 63		
2 bushels Peas,	3 00		
150 bushels Potatoes,	55 25		
75 bushels Carrots,	18 75		
10 bushels Beets,	3 30	706 00	
Bedding, Crockery, Furniture, &c.,	188 07		
Farming and Carpenters Tools,	74 29		
One new Cart and Wheels,	93 00		
One second hand Cart and Wheels,	40 00		
	395 36		
Deduct on above for depreciation, 12 1-2 per ct.	49 42	345 94	
Materials on hand for slat fence,	68 00		
10 days plowing in fall,	40 00		
7 Cords Manure,	28 00		
Grass Seed,	13 52	149 52	
Farm and buildings valued at cost,	5 500 00		
Enlarging and improving building on farm	339 00	5 839 00	
<i>Received on account of Paupers.</i>			
From town of Gorham,	161 50		
town of Rumford,	5 25		
town of Lyman,	12 50	179 25	
From John Sullivan for board of wife,	1 25		
Jerry Edgecomb for rent,	18 75		
Bedding left by deceased paupers,	27 00		
Clothing left by " "	14 50		
Cash left by John Johnson,	20 00	81 50	8 100 28
			<u>\$1 537 45</u>
Deduct amount paid on acct. of paupers for previous year,			159 81
			<u>1 377 64</u>
Whole expense of support of paupers the present year,			
Included in the above is amount paid for interments			
amounting to	\$83 00		
Also amount paid on account of paupers off the farm,	664 14	747 14	
		<u>630 50</u>	

Total cost of boarding and clothing the poor at the farm,

Whole number of persons sent to Farm, 43, Adults, 27, Children, 16, average number, 18; Adults, 12, Children, 6. Number of persons on farm at present, 22, of whom 16 have no settlement in this State. Number of permanent boarders off the farm, 4. Have partially supported 17 families—have assisted 25 persons in going to their friends.

Products of Farm.

22 Tuns Hay; 6 Tuns Straw and Butts; 113 bushels Oats, 16 bushels Barley; 70 bushels Corn; 9 bushels Beans; 3 bushels Peas; 250 bushels Potatoes; 15 bushels Beets; 400 bushels Carrots, 500 lbs. Pork; 7 loads Pumpkins.

A premium of \$3 was awarded for the oxen on the farm by the Agricultural Society, which is not included in the above account.

A claim of about \$25 has been made by a neighboring town, against the city for the support of Paupers. We are not satisfied that the demand is a legal one, and have therefore declined its payment for the present.

The purchase of a farm, as an experiment, for the support of the poor, has thus far more than realized our expectations. Although the farm was, in a measure, run down, the buildings and fences out of repair, requiring quite an outlay at the commencement, the expenses for support of paupers the last year, has been materially diminished, from previous years, and other things being equal, it is con-

fidently expected that the necessary cost will be yearly diminished, but if liberal appropriations are made for enriching and cultivating the soil, and a suitable person be procured to take charge of the farm, for a series of years, it might be made a source of profit to the city. The condition of the roads in some locations show conclusively the superiority of the gravel taken from the farm the past year, to that found in other places, and containing, as it does, an almost inexhaustible quantity of that material, will supply our streets for an indefinite number of years. We were very fortunate in finding a man so well qualified as Mr. Folsom, for the important position he occupied, and he has performed the duties incident to his station with a forbearance and discretion really commendable. And in justice to Mrs. Folsom we cannot close our report without expressing our entire approval of the manner in which she has discharged the arduous duty devolving on her in the management of a family whose wants are so varied and perplexing.

THOS. H. COLE,
RISHWORTH JORDAN, JR., } Overseers of Poor.
E. H. C. HOOPER, }

LIQUOR AGENT'S REPORT.

CITY OF BIDDEFORD, }
Feb. 20th, 1856. }

*To the Mayor and City Council of the City of Biddeford,
Gentlemen:—*

The Municipal year for which I was elected "Agent for the sale of Spirituous Liquors," having nearly expired, I submit the following Report:

Amount of Liquors sold,	\$ 2874 94
Casks sold,	22 35
Stock on hand,	1171 66
	<hr/>
	\$ 4068 95

Amount of Liquors purchased for the Agency,	\$ 3382 51
Total of Expenses,	621 26
	<hr/>
	4003,77

Net Profits,	\$ 65 18
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F. YORK, Agent.

BURIALS.

According to the Superintendent of Burials Report, made Feb. 26, 1856, the number of Deaths in the city, and buried in the same, from March 1st 1855, to Feb. 26, 1856, is as follows:—

Whole number,	95
Adults,	44
Children,	51— 95
Americans,	77
English,	5
French,	5
Irish,	8
	<hr/>
Total,	95

No. of City Charges of the above,	9
Diseases with which the above died, as far as could be ascertained,	
Consumption,	18
Insanity,	2
Infant found in river,	1
Canker,	28
By accouchment:	4
Croup,	2
Heart Complaint,	2
Typhoid Fever,	1
Old age,	3
By premature explosion of Gun-powder,	1
Still Born,	4
Diseases unknown,	29
Total,	95

CITY MARSHAL'S REPORT.

OFFICE OF THE CITY MARSHAL, }
Feb. 25th, 1856 }

To his Honor, the Mayor, and Aldermen of the City of Biddeford,
Gentlemen:—

The Municipal year for which I was elected City Marshal, having nearly expired, I deem it my duty to render an account of the doings of the Police Department during that time.

The whole number of committals to the Watch-house from March 12th 1855 to Feb. 25th 1856, was 74.

The whole number of complaints made by me is 167, and the offences are as follows, viz.:

For Assault and Battery,	19
For Larceny,	1
For selling Liquor,	33
For Vagrancy	2
For disturbing the Peace,	3
Liquor with intention for sale,	15
Liquor selling from March 12, 1855 to September 25, 1855,	26
From September 25 to Feb. 25 1856,	67

Of the number committed to the Watch-house, 8 were Americans. Foreigners, 66.

I have received \$5 for breach of City Ordinances.

The whole quantity of Liquor seized is	782 galls.
The number of Gallons destroyed is	690 "
" " on hand is	12 "

Stolen from the Watch-house by breaking locks
in the night time by persons unknown, 80 "

All of which is respectfully submitted.

SAMUEL C. HAMILTON, City Marshal.

REPORT OF CHIEF ENGINEER OF FIRE DEPARTMENT.

To the Mayor and City Council—Gentlemen:

Agreeably to the "Ordinance establishing a Fire Department," approved March 23 1855, I present a report of the operations of the Fire Department for the past year, with a schedule of the property as far as I can ascertain.

The Department have been called out the past year as follows:

June 1, 1855, House in Saco, owned by D. E. Somes.
 June 2, House on the corner of Liberty and Hill Sts., owned by Dr. H. Bacon—partly burned—cause, supposed to be a defect in the flue of the oven.

Dec. 24, House and Paint Shop of Melville Hovey, Storer St., Saco.

Dec. 29, A fire occurred at the P. S. & P. Railroad Station, occasioned by the burning of some cotton, supposed to have caught by sparks from the locomotive. The Department was called out to this fire three times.

Jan. 28, 1856, Wheelwright and Paint Shop, Water St., Saco, owned by N. M. Towle.

In addition to the above, the Department have been called out during the year four times by false alarms.

The expenses of the Department for the year have been as follows:

To Members of Triumph Engine Co.,	\$225 00
“ “ “ Washington Hook and Ladder Co.,	75 00
“ Saco Water Power Corporation for Rent of lot for Engine House,	49 92
“ Chubbourn & Gerry for Sieds for Engine,	25 00
“ Alterations and repairs of Engine House and apparatus, and incidental expenses,	87 65
	<hr/> \$462 57

ENGINE COMPANY No. 1. — 70 MEMBERS.

Below is an inventory of property belonging to the Department.—
 Engine No. 1, Washington St. Attached are:—

1 Hose Carriage 706 feet Leading Hose; 72 feet Ropes, 4 lengths Suction Hose, (about 33 feet); 8 Buckets, 1 long Pipe; 1 short Pipe; 1 Blunderbuss Pipe, 1 Nozzle, 2 Axes; 2 Torch Lamps, 29 Spanners; 7 Belts; 1 Screw Driver; 1 Hammer; 1 Monkey Wrench; 1 Common Wrench, 1 Copper Strainer; 1 Shovel; 1 Iron Bar; 1 Tackle and Fall; 1 Wheel Jack; 1 Pair Sleds, 4 Oil Cloth Suits; 1 Oil Cloth Cap.

HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY—30 MEMBERS.

1 Hook and Ladder Carriage; 96 feet Rope; 6 Ladders, 2 large Hooks with Chains and Ropes; 2 Torch Lamps; 1 Axe; Engine House on Washington St., 19 by 44 feet, with Hull in second story; 1 Wood Stove; 1 Coal Stove; 1 Boiler.

The above apparatus is in good condition.

RESERVOIRS.

No. 1, at King's Corner, on Main St, opposite and East of Chadwick & York Store.

No. 2, on Main St, near South-west corner of Chestnut St.

No. 3, on Liberty Street, nearly in front of Samuel Lowell's stove store.

No. 4, on Franklin St., near house of Abram Perkins.

No. 5, on Alfred St, near foot of Pool Street.

No. 6, on Pool St, North of Hill St.

No. 7, on Hill St, nearly opposite Bowling Saloon.

No. 8, on Sullivan St., North east of Edmund Perkins' house.

All in fair condition, with a good supply of water.

The engine has been taken out and exercised once a month, between the months of April and November, both inclusive.

All of which is respectfully submitted. N. O. KENDALL.

Chief Engineer.

NOTE. The net profit of the Municipal Court, as nearly as can be now ascertained, as there are bills to be allowed waiting the decision of the County Commissioners, will be between \$40 and \$75.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE,

For the Year ending February 29, 1856.

INDEBTEDNESS OF THE TOWN, AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE PRESENT FISCAL YEAR.

Notes payable by the town, "so far as ascertained," March 1, 1855, were as follows :

Otis Holmes, June 24, 1846,	\$1,100.00
Thomas Smith, " 13, 1854, 3 years,	4,000.00
Nath'l Smith, " " " "	1,860.00
Cynthia Lewis, July 22, " 1 "	1,200.00
Israel Waterhouse, Nov. 11, 1854, demand,	518.00
Sam'l Waterhouse, " " "	932.00
William Murch, Dec. 2, " "	812.00
Narcissa Cleaves, " " "	425.00
Joseph Dennett, January 17, 1855, " "	300.00
Mrs. Nancy Dennett, " " " "	409.00
A. F. Cousins, " 24 " " "	1,029.51
Wm. Murch, " 27 " " "	1,000.00
Samuel Manson, Feb. 13, " 1 year,	416.32
William Murch, " 14, " demand,	700.00
Sally Emery, Nov. 13, 1840,	150.00
Joseph Staples 2d, Sept. 2d, 1849, 2 years,	600.00
Biddeford Bank, March 19, 1855, demand,	1,800.00
Town Order, issued 1849, with interest,	104.00 \$17,346.83

Notes presented since the City organization and not included in the foregoing schedule, and of which there was no account.

D. S. Hill, July 19, 1849,	\$400 00	
Horace Bacon, October 11, 1849,	100 00	
Samuel Roberts, February 19, 1850,	100 00	
Samuel Batchelder, January 28, 1853,	200 00	800 00
		<hr/>
State Tax for 1854,	\$4365 15	\$18 146 83
Half County Tax, 1854,	1676 24	6 041 39
		<hr/>
		\$24 188 22

Sundry bills of 1854, paid since the organization of the City government.

Paid Saco and Biddeford Gas Company,	\$68 05	
D. Stone on account of Health department,	1 00	
B. Nason on account of Paupers,	36 21	
S. P. McKenney for auditing Town Accts.	13 00	
E. H. Banks, " " " "	12 00	
Joel L. Roberts for Stove for Station house,	6 05	
Hans Nelson on account of Paupers,	2 50	
David B. Hill for Bunks for Station house,	6 55	
Frederick Greene, Esq., Execution of Edwin Tarbox vs. the Town of Biddeford,	64 46	
Mark Smith on account of Paupers,	48 00	
W. G. Gooch on account of Highways,	28 92	
Wm. H. Field on account of Paupers,	3 50	
Mary McIntire " " "	44 00	
Thos. Emery 2d on account of Highways,	1 13	
I. T. Hobson on account of Highways,	6 67	
E. Bryant, Execution vs. Town of Biddeford,	207 13	
F. Robie, Town Order on acct gen. expense,	3 00	
S. W. Power Co. on acct. of Paupers,	6 25	
Leonard Andrews for copy of City Charter,	4 00	
Olive Adams on account,	10 00	
N. O. Kendall on account of Highways,	4 50	
" " " General Expense,	10 00	
Interest on Loans,	532 92	
Balance due Olive Emery on account,	156 95	
S. W. Luques for services as Attorney,	71 63	\$25 536 64

C O N T R A .

Due the Town :—

On account of Taxes for 1852,	\$ 6 42	
N. H. Goodwin on account,	11 95	
Notes Receivable,	253 32	
Geo. W. Nichols, Collector 1852,	267 04	
Taxes of 1854,	201 49	
Non resident Taxes,	378 17	
Cash in Treasury,	408 44	\$1 526 83

Making the total indebtedness of the town at the commencement of the city government,

\$24 009 81

PRESENT INDEBTEDNESS OF THE CITY, MARCH 1, 1856.

Notes payable by the City :

Thos's Smith, June 13, 1854, 3 years,	4,000 00
Nath'l Smith, " " " "	1,860 00
Sam'l Waterhouse, Nov. 11, " demand	932 00
William Murch, Dec. 2d, " "	812 00
Joseph Dennett, Jan. 17, 1855, " "	300 00
Mrs. Nancy Dennett, Jan. 17, 1855, " "	400 00
A. F. Cousins, Jan. 24, 1855, " "	1,029 51
William Murch, Jan. 27, 1855, " "	1,000 00
Samuel Manson, Feb. 13, 1855, one year,	416 32

Sally Emery, Nov. 13, 1840,	150 00
Town order, issued 1849, on interest,	104 00
Josiah Hill, May 8, 1855, demand,	200 00
Chas. F. Cutts, April 6, 1855, one year,	916 66
Chas. F. Cutts, April 6, 1855, two years,	916 66
Chas. F. Cutts, April 6, 1855, three years,	916 66
Nathaniel Emery, May 19, 1855, demand	200 00
Thos. Wadlin, May 13, 1855, demand,	200 00
Moses Bradbury, Sept. 13, 1855, demand,	700 00
Oliver Curtis, Sept. 2, 1855, demand,	900 00
Kerme Folsom, April 12, 1855, demand,	724 15
Mahitable Taylor, Oct. 19, 1855, demand,	150 00
Woodbury G. Gooch, Nov. 10, 1855, 2 years,	1,000 00
John D. Fabyan, Nov. 17, 1855, demand,	6 00
Biddeford Bank, Dec. 7, 1855, 4 months,	1,000 00
John D. Fabyan, Dec. 8, 1855, demand,	150 00
Ammi Dennett, Dec. 11, 1855, demand,	425 00
W. G. Gooch, January 2, 1856, 2 years,	150 00
W. G. Gooch, January 2, 1856, 3 months,	1,275 00
Joseph Staples 2d, renewed Feb. 12, 1856, 1 yr.,	700 00
Otis Holmes, renewed Feb. 15, 1856, demand,	1,350 00
Ammi Dennett, Feb. 11, 1856,	125 00
Samuel Roberts, renewed Feb. 15, 1856, demand,	200 00
Joseph Staples 2d, Feb. 16, 1856, 4 mos.,	150 00
Eben Hurd, Feb. 23, 1856, demand,	100 00
Nathaniel Milliken, Feb. 23, 1856, demand,	150 00
Eben Hurd, Feb. 26, 1856, demand,	100 00
William Berry, Feb. 23, 1856, 60 days,	2,000 00
Balance due Mrs. Olive Adams on account,	156 35
State Tax for 1855,	4,365 15
1-2 County Tax, 1855,	1,818.72 \$32,693 18

CONTRA.

Due the city :—

On account of taxes for 1852,	6 42
N. H. Goodwin, on account,	11 95
Notes Receivable,	164 23
* Geo. W. Nichols, Collector, 1852,	267 04
Taxes of 1854,	109 12
Non Resident Taxes for 1854,	355 88
Taxes for 1855,	669 74
Non Resident Taxes for 1855,	605 30
Cash on hand,	141 38 2,331.11

Making the present debt	\$30,362.07
Indebtedness of the town at the commencement of the City government,	\$24,009 81

Making the increase of debt,	6,352 20
This increase of indebtedness is made by the pur- chase of the City Farm,	5,500.00
By money loaned to pay for repairing buildings on City Farm, and for furnishing and stock- ing the Farm,	1,500 00
By cash paid out up to Feb. 29, 1856, in rebuild- ing Spring's Bridge,	247 07

\$7,247 07

By which it appears that \$894 81 of the debt of the city is paid from the money assessed the present year,

* NOTE. Of this debt \$200 00 has been paid in to the Treasurer since this entry was made in this report.

The whole amount raised by assessment, for city purposes, for 1855, was	\$19,000 00
Amount appropriated for Schools,	6,000 00
Amount appropriated for Highways,	5,000 00

Monies received from all sources for city purposes the current year,
together with the State and County Taxes.

Received from Taxes of 1855,	\$27,263 43
Received from State School Fund,	758 42
Received from Sale of Lots in Cemetery,	126 00
Received from Licenses,	201 75
Received from Paupers—cash refunded,	18 75
Received from the effects of deceased Paupers,	20 00
Received from Sale of Stock and Produce on City Farm,	363 60
Received from other Towns on account of Paupers,	161 50
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	\$28,913 45

EXPENDITURES.

HIGHWAYS.

Paid Street Commissioner in Ward 1,	\$ 653 69
“ “ “ in Village Dist.	3701 67
“ “ “ in Ward 7,	1113 68
“ Sundry individuals for Labor, and Materials,	56 00
Labor done by the city teams and Paupers,	301 22
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	\$5826 26

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Paid Dr. A. Bacon	\$10 00
Paid Wm. H. Hutchins,	10 00
Paid Joseph Smith,	10 00
Paid E. P. Parcher,	60 00
Paid Hiram Porter,	70 00
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	\$160 00

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Paid L. D. Pinkham,	\$16 75
Paid C. C. Goodwin,	18 00
Paid E. P. Parcher,	25 80
Paid Charles Sweetsir,	20 00
Paid Micah Hatch,	20 00
Paid Benjamin R. Dolliff,	40 00
Paid Ebenezer Emerson,	50 00
Paid Ira Andrews,	3 00
Paid Abijah Tarbox,	20 45
Paid Special Police,	16 10
Paid Chas. A. Gowen	2 40
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	\$232 50

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

Paid Thomas H. Cole,	\$40 00
" E. J. C. Hooper,	51 29
" Rishworth Jordan, Jr.,	26 60
	<u>\$120 29</u>

ABATEMENT ACCOUNT,

Saco and Biddeford Water Power Co., T. Quinby, Agt.,	\$150 00
A List granted by Assessors for reasons assigned,	434 94
	<u>\$584 94</u>

CONSTABLE DEPARTMENT.

Paid Samuel Hamilton for notifying meetings, \$3 50

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Paid Triumph Engine Company amount appropaiated,	\$300 00
" Thomas Quinby for rent of Engine House Lot,	49 92
" John A. Merrill's bill for Ladders,	6 20
" Chadbourn & Gerry, for sleds under Engine,	25 00
" Sundry bills,	81 15
	<u>\$462 27</u>

SCHOOLS.

Paid School District No 1.	\$135 60
" " " No. 2,	114 75
" " " No. 3,	155 08
" " " No. 4,	4898 07
" " " No. 5,	159 40
" " " No. 6,	277 94
" " " No. 7,	171 55
" " " No. 8,	140 50
" " " No. 9,	179 28
" " " No. 10,	197 84
" " " No. 12,	155 48
" " " Kennebunkport,	29 28
" " " Dayton,	12 45
	<u>\$6627 22</u>

Paid Interest on Loans,	\$570 65
Pauper account,	1614 54
City Marshal,	250 00
Deputy Marshals,	20 00
City Solicitor,	24 07
Mayor's Salary,	200 00
City Clerk's Salary,	225 00
Salary of Clerk of Common Council,	20 00
On accounts of discounts on Taxes voluntarily paid to Treasurer,	1831 36
Percentage for collecting Taxes,	563 73
For 2 Fire Proof Safes,	334 02
1 Street Sprinkler,	102 50
Night Watch,	175 65
General Expense, *	873 50

*In this item of "General Expense" are included the furnishing of the Council Rooms, Blank Books, and Stationery, Printing &c.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S SERVICES.

Paid Luke Hill,	\$50 00
Paid Francis Masseure,	25 00
Paid John Hubbard,	24 50
Paid Samuel W. Luques	18 00
Paid Lewis Witham,	37 50
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	\$155 00

ASSESSORS' SERVICES.

Paid Thomas H. Cole,	\$126 50
Paid Moses Bradbury,	35 00
Paid Rishworth Jordan, Jr.,	85 00
Paid for assistance rendered Assessors,	27 75
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	274 25

RECAPITULATION OF EXPENDITURES.

Paid on account of Highways,	\$5826 26
Paid on account of Health Department,	160 00
Paid on account of Assessors' Services,	274 25
Paid on account of School Com. Services,	155 00
Paid on account of Police Department,	232 50
Paid on account of Constables,	0 00
Paid on account of Fire Department,	462 27
Paid on account of Schools,	6627 22
Paid on account of Overseers of the Poor,	120 29
Paid on account of Abatements,	584 94
Paid on account of Interest,	570 65
Paid on account of Paupers,	1614 54
Paid City Marshal,	250 00
Paid Deputy Marshals,	20 00
Paid City Solicitor,	24 07
Paid Mayor's Salary,	200 00
Paid City Clerk's Salary,	225 00
Paid Salary of Clerk of Common Council,	20 00
Paid on account of Discount on Taxes voluntarily paid to Treasurer,	1831 36
Paid on account of Percentage for collecting Taxes,	563 73
Paid for 2 Fire Proof Safes,	334 02
Paid for 1 Street Sprinkler,	102 50
Paid for Night Watch,	175 65
Paid for General Expense,	873 50
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Total City Expense,	\$21,251 25

In consequence of the additional expense necessarily attending the outfit of a city government, it was hardly to be expected that the expenses of the present year would fall short of those of the previous year, yet we find that the expenses of the city the present year are \$2,227 24 less than they were in 1854.

The actual expenses of the town for the year 1854, were	\$23,478 49
The actual expenses of the city for 1855, were	21,251 25
Balance in favor of the City,	\$2,227 24

CITY EXPENSE FOR 1855.

Highways,	5,826 26
Health Department,	161 00
Assessors' Services,	274 25
School Committee Services,	155 00
Police Department,	232 50
Constable Department,	8 50
Fire Department,	462 27
Overseers of the Poor,	120 29
Paupers,	\$1,614 54
Mayor's Salary,	200 00
City Clerk's Salary,	225 00
Clerk Common Council's Salary,	20 00
City Marshal's Salary,	2 00
Deputy Marshal's Salary,	20 00
City Solicitor's Salary,	24 07
General Expense,	873 50
	\$10,461 18

TOWN EXPENSE FOR 1854.

Highways	6,287 02
Health Department,	285 25
Assessors' Services,	498 39
School Committee Services,	145 00
Police Department,	260 52
Constable Department,	33 52
Fire Department,	1,105 43
Selectmen's Services,	246 00
Paupers,	2,900 41
General Expense,	2,217 00
	\$12,510 54

whether a town or city form of government would prove to be the more economical. Above are presented the common expenditures of the years 1854 and 1855, in contrast, that the comparative costs of the two years in the above items, may be seen at a glance.

A. W. PAGE,	} <i>Joint Standing Committee</i>
JAMES ANDREWS,	
JOHN H. ALLEN,	
H. H. BRAGDON,	
ISAAC LARRABEE.	} <i>on Accounts.</i>

CITY OF BIDDEFORD, February 29, 1856.

The Joint Standing Committee on Finance having examined the accounts of the City Treasurer for the current year, find the same accurately and very neatly kept, and sustained by the proper vouchers.

The balance in the hands of the Treasurer, February 28th, 1856, was one hundred and forty one dollars and thirty eight cents.

D. E. SMES,	} <i>Committee</i>
E. H. C. HOOPER,	
E. H. BANKS,	
C. H. MILLIKEN,	
R. H. PLUMMER.	} <i>on Finance.</i>